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COUNTRY : USSR

SUBJECT : Recent Developments in the Soviet Missile and
Nuclear Weapons Programs

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Missile Developments

1. New antitank guided missiles "Shmel" and "Falanga" are joining the armory of the Soviet Antitank Missile Artillery (PTRA - protivotankovaya raketnaya artilleriya). At firing tests these missiles have shown very good results.

2. Soviet missile designer Vladimir Nikolayevich Chelomey has been moved from Moscow to Fili with his laboratories and his design bureau. Several blocks of buildings have been built for him next to the Voroshilov Sanatorium, not far from the Moscow River. He is still concerned with the "krylatka" missile.

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3. Next to the City Children's Hospital on Bolshaya Polyanka ulitsa (street) in Moscow there is a secret plant "belonging to" Marshal of the Soviet Union Kirill S. Moskalenko. The plant is concerned with optics and guidance equipment

The director of the plant is designer Nudelman and his deputy is Kozlov. The consultant-chief designer is Tokarev.

4. The R-11 missile with an HE warhead used to cost 800,000 old rubles, i.e., 80,000 new rubles. As of December 1961, following the implementation of mass production and the perfection of certain processes used in the production of this missile, the R-11 cost 60,000 rubles per missile. With an atomic warhead, this missile costs from five to ten times as much, depending on the yield.

Nuclear Weapons Developments

5. As of December 1961, the Soviets had mastered the process of producing atomic warheads with a yield of 1.5 - 2 kilotons. Such warheads can be used for either missiles or artillery shells (snaryad). It is considered that a warhead with a one-kiloton yield is not needed.

6. In the testing of 50-megaton bombs, a completely unexpected result was an explosion equal to the force of an 80-megaton bomb.³ The Soviets suppose that some sort of chemical changes took place in the charge after it was prepared. They also suppose that similar bombs of 100-megaton force may be higher than rated and may give explosions equivalent to 150-160 megatons.

Comments:

3. The U.S. estimate of the yield of the 27 October 1961 Soviet test is 58 megatons.